

EMPH (1958). Department.

Ms SERIES.

G.O. No. 2432 P. H.
Dated 15 th July 1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

Committee - Central Medico-legal Advisory
 Committee Appointment Payment of T. A.
 to Provincial Members - Agreed to

No. F. 16-I/48-M.I.
Government of India.
Ministry of Health.

New Delhi, the 20th April, 1948.

From

J.N. Saksena, Esquire, B.A.,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department,
M A D R A S.

Subject:- Appointment of Central Medicolegal
Advisory Committee.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the papers
the details of which are given in the margin And to say that
Letter No. 11/12/47-R., dated the 15th January, 1948 (with enclosures) from the
Secretary, Governing Body & Scientific Advisory Board, India Research Fund
Association. THE Government of India will be glad to know the views of the Provincial Government on the
resolution passed by the Scientific Advisory Board of the Indian
Research Fund Association at its meeting held on the 12th and
13th December, 1947.

2. The Provincial Government will kindly note that the travelling allowances of the Provincial representatives are to be borne by their respective Governments. The Central Medicolegal Advisory Committee will be under the administrative control of this Ministry.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

(Sd)

Assistant Secretary.

/True Copy/

SP/22.5.

Superintendent

Madras Record Office.

162
20/5

INDIAN RESEARCH FUND ASSOCIATION.

In reply please quote No. 11/12/47-11.

From

Secretary,
Governing Body & Scientific Advisory Board,
Indian Research Fund Association.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India, Ministry of Home Affairs,
New Delhi.

New Delhi, 15th January, 1948.

Subject:- Appointment of a Central Medicolegal Advisory
Committee under the Ministry of Home AFFAIRS.

Sir,

I am directed to say that the Scientific Advisory Board at its meeting held on the 12th and 13th December, 1947 Considered the attached letter from Lieut.-Colonel, S.D.S. Greval, Imperial Serologist and Chemical Examiner to the Government of India, School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, in which he had suggested the appointment of a Medico-Legal Advisory Committee. After discussing the question at some length, the Board passed the following resolution:-

"In view of the very limited work done in this field and the absence of any organization for the development of medico-Legal work in India, the Scientific Advisory Board considers the constitution of such an organization necessary and recommends that a Central Medico-Legal Committee should be constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with Provincial Governments with a view to advise and encourage uniform and standardised medico-legal procedure and practice throughout India and to promote the development of new and modern techniques."

I am to request that the Resolution passed by the Scientific Advisory Board recommending the constitution of a Medico-legal Advisory committee under the Ministry of Home affairs may kindly be considered in consultation with the provincial Governments and steps taken as soon as possible to set up a Medico-Legal Advisory Committee to advise the Government of India and Provincial Governments on matters appertaining to medico-legal procedure and practice throughout India.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Sd/- T.C. Puri
Lieut.-Colonel,
for Secretary.

Copy with a copy of enclosure forwarded for information to the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Health, New Delhi.

/True Copy/

Superintendent

SP/22.5.

Madras Record Office.

Handwritten signature and date 26/5.

'COPY'

No.2798/S dated the 30th September, 1947.

From

Lt.-Colonel S.D.S. Greval,
Imperial Serologist & Chemical Examiner
to the Government of India, Calcutta.

To

The Director General of Health Services,
New Delhi.

Subject:- A proposal for a Medicolegal Advisory Committee
under the IRFA

Memo.

Will you kindly instruct, if possible, the Secretary, IRFA, to include for consideration, in an appropriate meeting, desirability of appointing an Advisory Committee for meeting and discussing medicolegal problems, with a view to their clarification, at the next annual meeting of the I.R.F.A.

The committee will discuss item like the following:-

(1) The present procedure of seizing blodstained exhibits. There are flaws in the procedure. In the absence of a description, of a stain and associated conditions, a report on its origin may lead to miscarriage of justice.

(2) The spectroscopy of blood. Differences of opinion exist.

(3) Luminescence tests for blood. Differences of opinion, exist.

(4) Present postition of blood characters (O-A-B, M-N, Rh, Hr) Sufficent information does not appear to have been made available to the authorities who send requisition to the Imperial Serologist for determining these characters for medicolegal purposes.

(5) The importance of blood characters in determing Paternity and maternity. Is the evidence of blood characters infallible or is it only indicative of a strong likelihood? Courts have given verdicts against the evidence.

(6) Identification of human semen. Differences of opinion exist re-essential points.

(7) Artificial insemination from a donor. Medical man's res-ponsibility, ethical and legal, and the status of the child have not yet been clarified.

(8) Certain skeletal peculiarities in different parts of the Indian Dominion. Very little financial aid by the IRFA will enable the dissection rooms of the teaching institutions to supply information which will be collected and correlated. Authropol@gists may co-operate.

(9) New industrial risks and Workmen's Compensation Act. Manganese, for instance, is not on the schedule of the Act but the risk is increasing due to development in steel industry.

(10) The irresistible impulse. By degrees the existance of such an impulse is finding recognition elsewhere. In India probably it plays a very important role in the nation's life. Yet it is not recognised legally.

P.T.O.

This list is by no means exhaustive:

The membership of the committee may include i) chemical Examiners, ii) Professors of Forensic Medicine and iii) Alienists.

The newly proposed Indian Psychiatric Society announced in the Indian Medical Gazette (Page attached) can be included in the Committee with mutual advantage of both.

After the first meeting under the IRFA the Committee may meet twice a year in different Parts of the Indian Dominion enlarging itself by co-option of members locally, including members of the legal profession. Chemical Examiners in the Provinces are in favour of such meetings. Travelling expenses will be borne by the Government concerned. Items of research may be financed by the IRFA.

The fact that medicolegal matters were by-passed by the Bhole Committee adds weights to the proposal. The by-passing was due, apparently, to a parallelism with England where medicolegal matters come under Home office, not Department of Health. As questions of procedure will be discussed a representative of the corresponding department in the Indian Dominion may also be invited.

Sd/- (S.D.S. Greval)
Lt.-Colonel,
Imperial Serologist.

FORMATION OF AN INDIAN PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY.

Following a meeting of psychiatrists in India held in Delhi on 7th January, 1947, it has been decided to form the Indian Psychiatric Society. The purpose and scope of the proposed society is the promotion of mental health among the people of India, including the prevention and treatment of mental disability.

There being, at present, very few psychiatrists in the country it was decided that initially the society should consist of a small nucleus of practising and qualified psychiatrists, and that other medical practitioners and workers in related social schemes, such as psychology, education, and anthropology, should be invited to participate as members or associate members.

The tasks of the society were realised to include the setting of standards of education and training in psychiatry of doctors generally, and of psychiatrists and their co-workers particularly, and the urgent necessity of stimulating active interest and understanding of problems of mental health among administrative bodies, and the general public.

The first general meeting will be held on the occasion of the next session of the Indian Science Congress. It is proposed to begin the publication of an Indian Journal of Psychiatry as soon as possible.

Lieut. -Colonel J.E. Dhunjibhoy, I.M.S., was elected the first President of the Society and Major R.B. Davis, D.O.S., I.M.S., of the European Mental Hospital, Ranchi, was made the Secretary.

-oOo-

SP/22.5.

MMemo. No. 30010/48-2G2 Public Health, d/14.5.48.

Sub: Appointment of Central Medicolegal Advisory
Committee.

Read: Letter from the Government of India, Ministry
of Health, New Delhi, No.F.16-1/48-M.I.
dated 20/4/48.

Referred to the Surgeon General for early remarks.

Sd/-

To
The Surgeon-General.

Note: Home Department may see before issue.

Sd/-

Health. May be perused and returned to Education and Public

Sd/-

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

From

Cpl. S.L. Bhatia, CIE. MC. MA. MD. (CANTAB)
FRCP. (LOND) FRS(E).,
Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras,
Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Department,
Madras.

R.No. 38779-M1/48 dated 14-5-1948.

Sir,

Ref:- Government Memo. No. 30010/48-2.G2 Public Health (4-5-48 Appointment of Central Medicolegal Advisory Committee.

I am in agreement with the resolution passed by the Scientific Advisory Board of the Indian Research Fund Association at its meeting held on 12th and 13th December 1947 regarding the formation of a Central Medicolegal Advisory Committee.

/True Copy/

Yours obediently servant
Sd/-
for Surgeon-General with the
Government of Madras.

EDUCATION & PUBLIC DEPARTMENT(G2

Letter/Ms.No. 2432 Public Health dated 15-7-48.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Health,
New Delhi.

Sir,

Sub: Committee - Central Medicolegal Advisory
Committee - Appointment - Payment of
Travelling allowances to Provincial
members - Agreed & to.

Ref: Your letter No. F. 16-1/48-M.I. dated
20-4-48.

With reference to your letter cited above, I am directed & to state that this Government agree to the constitution of a Central Medico-legal Advisory Committee under the administrative control of the Government of India, and to bear the travelling allowances of the ~~xx~~ representatives of this Province.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

13-7-48.

To

The Copy to the Surgeon-General
with reference to his letter R.No. 38779-M1/48
dated 14-5-48.

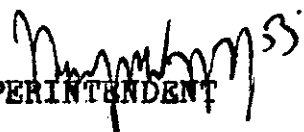
Copy to the Home Department.

Copy to the Finance Department.

Copy to the Accountant-General through Finance Department.

/True Copy/

SP/22.5.


SUPERINTENDENT

Madras Record Office.


26/5.